

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00915 081054Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
HA-05 OMB-01 /111 W
-----041290 081056Z /21

O 081034Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7238
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 915

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, AO
SUBJECT: REPORTS OF CONTINUED SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACKS ON ANGOLA

REF: STATE 116305,

1. THERE HAS BEEN NO CATEGORICAL SAG STATEMENT THAT ALL
SADF FORCES HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM ANGOLA BUT THAT IS THE
IMPORT OF OFFICIAL COMMENT AND NEWS REPORTS HERE. SAG
PUBLIC STATEMENTS (CAPE TOWN 901) HAVE INDICATED THAT THE
"LIMITED OPERATION" INTO ANGOLA HAD BEEN COMPLETED "BY THE
TIME OF THE DEFENSE MINISTER'S ANNOUNCEMENT AT 2300 HOURS
LOCAL TIME MAY 4 (CAPE TOWN 898). IN BRIEFING TO MILITARY
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ATTACHES ON MAY 5, THE SADF REPORTED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN
FORCES REMAINED AT CHETEQUERO THE NIGHT OF MAY 4 AND
"WITHDREW" MAY 5 (DAO IR 6 880 020078).

2. ACCORDING TO THE SUNDAY TIMES, MAY 7, AN SADF SPOKESMAN
ON MAY 6 WARNED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD CROSS INTO
ANGOLA AGAIN IF SWAPO CONTINUED ITS BORDER CROSSINGS

INTO SWA. "WE GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TERRORISTS WANT TO LET US KNOW THAT THEY ARE STILL THERE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID, "BUT WE WISH TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT IF THEY CONTINUE WITH THIS TYPE OF THING, WE SHALL HAVE TO ACT AGAIN."

3. GENERAL INTERPRETATION PROMULGATED BY THE PRESS, HOWEVER, IS THAT SWAPO HAS SUFFERED A SERIOUS BLOW TO ITS CAPABILITY TO CARRY OUT TERRORIST ACTIONS IN NAMIBIA. AT THE MOMENT, THERE IS NO IMPLICATION THAT MORE ATTACKS WOULD BE USEFUL AT THIS STAGE BARRING SOME NEW SWAPO "PROVOCATION."

4. WE HAVE PASSED REFTTEL TO EMBASSY PRETORIA AND ASKED IT AND DAO TO COMMENT SEPARATELY IF THEY HAVE ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS OR INFORMATION.
NELSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, INVASIONS, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PORG, SOPN, SF, AO
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Review Markings:
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